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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/23/2006

Stephen John Kennedy

117-587 (AMK)

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EXAMINER

WATKINS III, WILLIAM P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1794

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/27/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The 102 rejection has been withdrawn in view of applicants claim amendments.
2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-11, 14, 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barrett (U.S. 5,368,914) in view of Brambach (U.S. 5,186,999).

Barrett teaches a structural laminate with two outer metal layers and a resin core with an intermediate reinforcement layer (see the abstract and element 20, col. 4, lines 20-30). Brambach teaches forming a core with reinforcement by injecting resin into the core between two outer sheets (abstract). The instant invention claims forming a laminate with a core and intermediate layer by injection molding resin in to the core. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have formed the core and sheets of Barrett by injection molding as this is taught as one of a limited number of ways to form such a laminate by Brambach. Use of any know laminate intermediate reinforcing layer such as a mesh or perforated sheet would have been within the ordinary skill of the art absent unexpected results. Adjusting the thickness of the outer

structural layers for any given application would have been within the ordinary skill of the art.

4. Applicant's arguments filed 09 February 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that that the outer panels are of metal and much thicker than those of the examples of Barrett. As noted in the above rejection Barrett does teach outer metal panels and also teaches a structural panel. The examiner takes it as being within the ordinary skill of the art to adjust the thickness of the layers of a structural panel to satisfy the load requirements of any particular structural application.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William P. Watkins III whose telephone number is 571-272-1503. The examiner works an increased flex time schedule, but can normally be reached Monday through Friday, 11:30 A.M. through 8:00 P.M. Eastern Time. The examiner returns all calls within one business day unless an extended absence is noted on his voice mail greeting.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample can be reached on 571-272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

WW/ww
May 27, 2009

/William P. Watkins III/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794